

ANALYSIS

This ordinance amends Title 10 - Animals, of the Los Angeles County Code to provide that a licensed service dog is not counted toward the number of dogs which may be kept without requiring a kennel license.

Currently, a person who keeps four or more dogs over the age of four months is required to obtain a dog kennel license. The amendment to the definition of "dog kennel" provides that a licensed service dog is not counted toward the number of dogs kept, while such dog is serving a person who is disabled within the meaning of Government Code Section 12926(i) or Government Code Section 12926(k).

The amendment also provides that the term "service dog" includes "signal dog", "guide dog" and other types of service dogs trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

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DCR:dcr
(Requested 6/3/04)

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Title 10 - Animals of the Los Angeles County Code, providing that a licensed service dog is not counted toward the number of dogs which may be kept without obtaining a kennel license, and defining "service dog."

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 10.08.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.08.130 Dog kennel.

"Dog kennel" means any lot, building, structure, enclosure or premises whereupon or wherein four or more dogs, over four months of age, are kept or maintained for any purpose, including places where dogs are boarded, kept for sale, or kept for hire. For purposes of this section, a service dog licensed under Section 10.20.090, is not counted toward the number of dogs kept or maintained, while such dog is serving a person who is disabled within the meaning of Government Code section 12926(i) or Government Code section 12926(k).

SECTION 2. Section 10.20.090 is hereby deleted in its entirety.

SECTION 3. Section 10.20.090 is hereby added to read as follows:

10.20.090 Service dog defined - License and license tag - Requirements -

Period of validity

A. "Service Dog" is a guide dog or seeing-eye dog which was trained by a person licensed under Chapter 9.5 (commencing with Section 7200) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, a signal dog or other dog individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including, but not limited to, guiding individuals with impaired vision, alerting individuals with impaired hearing to intruders or sounds, providing minimal protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair or fetching dropped items.

B. Every person owning or having custody or control of a dog over the age of four months, who submits proof to the director that such dog has been successfully trained as a service dog as defined above in subsection A, shall procure a service dog license and a service dog license tag, which license and tag shall be valid while the dog is acting as a service dog, and is owned and kept by the same person. The tag shall be returned to the Department by the owner or keeper of the dog upon transfer of ownership or possession of the dog, or upon the retirement or death of the dog.

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